



Around the world

Survey of free press

Some three-quarters of the world's population live under regimes which maintain power primarily through the repression of opponents.

Yet the only concepts we have to categorise these forms of government are "authoritarian" and "totalitarian" — and they fail to capture the important differences between, say, the Soviet Union today and the way it was under Stalin's rule, or the differences between the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, Amin's Uganda, Chile's military dictatorship and the "unofficial" assassination of opponents in Guatemala.

That's where John McCamant of Denver University Graduate School of International Studies, and a team of young researchers, come into the picture.

They aim to catalogue the different forms of political repression and then to indicate how their data suggests differences between countries and years along four or five basic dimensions.

Their project, which has included discussions with IPI, grew out of research that McCamant and his collaborator Ernest Duff did for their book, *Violence And Repression in Latin America* (Free Press, 1976).

"As work on the Latin American study progressed," says McCamant, "we realised increasingly that governmental repression was a larger problem than oppositional violence, but that the social sciences had paid almost no attention to it and did not even have the concepts with which to think about repression."

And the value of the project? "I hope it will lead to better analysis of the causes and consequences of political repression," says McCamant. "That in turn is needed to inform policy choices and to make more sophisticated evaluations of particular cases."

"Today, no adequate general comparative study of political repression exists. Our Comparative Political Freedom and Repression Project is designed to remedy the situation quickly and then to send out the results to scholarly, student and citizen forums."

Taiwan reporters banned

Exclusion of Taiwan reporters from press conferences at Tokyo's National Press Club was followed by the intended lodging of a protest with IPI, according to reports from Japan.

Until recently, press conferences at Japan's leading press club have been open to all accredited foreign journalists, but Taiwanese have now been excluded from press conferences of all visiting heads of state, allegedly on the insistence of Peking.

Journalists from the People's Republic have been allowed to join the club since Japan opened diplomatic relations with Peking in 1972.

The Taiwanese, on the other hand, have been turned down and the People's Republic reporters are said to have vetoed Taiwanese attendance at three conferences before the total ban was imposed.

India's press needs

If there had been more people "of integrity" in the Indian press, the country's papers would not have stood silently by — as the majority did — as Mrs. Gandhi's regime imposed the harsh restrictions of the Emergency period.

Mayoral candidates Koch and Goodman to spar at Nov. 2 Headliner Luncheon

As the New York City Mayoralty campaign enters its final week, Democratic candidate Ed Koch and Republican candidate Roy Goodman, will be guests of honor at a Headliner's Luncheon, Wednesday, November 2 in the Club's main dining room. Each candidate will

be given 10 minutes to state his case. Questions from the floor will follow. The proceedings will be broadcast from the Club's Metropolitan Radio Network.

For reservations call Mary Novick, 687-2430.

MacNeil raps network news shows; says rating points are only goal

"TV news is not designed to inform. It is at the tolerated periphery of television as an entertainment medium," Robert MacNeil told a packed house at the October 12 OPC Shop Talk Luncheon. MacNeil soloed in what was originally billed as a dual appearance by both hosts of the award-winning PBS news show, The MacNeil/Lehrer Report. Co-host James Lehrer was in Washington preparing that evening's show: a report on Allan Bakke's reverse discrimination case against the University of California which was being argued before the Supreme Court that very day.

Canadian-born MacNeil claimed that network news is cynically manipulated by people outside the news department who will do anything to gain viewers. "But not by people in the news operations," he asserted. Conceding that commercial news is "brilliant in its logistics," MacNeil faulted the networks for aiming at the least common denominator. "No point is pursued beyond the level where the dullest person in the audience might become bored with it," he asserted.

In airing The MacNeil/Lehrer Report, American Public Television sought to provide an alternative to the high-speed, headlines-only style of the networks. "It was very important for internal reasons," MacNeil explained, "that we not seem to be in competition with network news. We needed to be seen by the member stations of PBS as complementing it. We also felt we could help the public see that there was an alternative way to view the news."

"The MacNeil/Lehrer Report was not designed for news junkies," he claimed. "It was designed for those who felt that one story a night over a month was a better way of getting the news."

Budget limitations forced the show's producers into the "talking head" format. To get maximum visual value from

such a format, a great deal of attention was paid to the set. The program is shot in the round by four cameras under a director whose specialty is sports. He covers each Report as an event, with only a rough script to guide camera shots. Having MacNeil in New York and Lehrer in his native Washington, D.C., capitalizes on the "magic" first discovered by Chet Huntley and David Brinkley.

MacNeil/Lehrer uses nine reporters, each assigned to specific beats. The producers of the program are also journalists with special subject areas. MacNeil, Lehrer and producer Al Vecchio serve as the show's editors, with MacNeil wielding final decision-making power in his capacity as executive editor.

Aiming a point specifically at the 100-plus OPC members and guests in the audience, MacNeil pointed out that 29 out of 138 programs aired in the last six months had dealt with foreign affairs. He said that his program buys film from free-lancers and foreign stations — "if we can afford their price and if the stuff fits our editorial policy." MacNeil/Lehrer also follows up leads which have first appeared in other media. "We depend a great deal on the natural incest of the journalistic community," he said.

Robert MacNeil is not optimistic that MacNeil/Lehrer's in-depth format will soon be employed on network TV. Ratings are what networks want, he said. All else is secondary. "It would take a suicidally public-spirited network news executive to take a stand for changing network news in a way that would cost rating points," he said in answer to one question.

Shop-talk co-chairmen Larry Stessin and Gloria Zukerman introduced the program, which was carried live over WNYC. OPC prexy Matt Bassity presided at the dais.

—William J. Wilson

At home with the Scotts; they'll discuss furlough



JOHN SCOTT

A Sabbatical year for a newsman? And for his bride, leaving her prestigious publishing job to join him in a wild, free-form twelvemonth away from the daily grind?

That's what Gloria and John Scott have arranged for their personal delectation — and what their OPC friends will be celebrating on Thursday evening, 17 November.

So it's bon voyage — and after the OPC send-off, a camping trip through the great American Southwest. Mexico, Africa, Europe, the Middle East and Southeast Asia will follow, in due course.

Away from his chores as news anchorman for WOR-RKO General and away from her work as director of Learning Ventures (educational division of Bantam Books), the Scotts will file daily feature material for broadcast on WOR. Newspaper, magazine and book assignments would be lagniappe — and welcome.

—Ruth Biemiller

NEW APPLICATIONS

Active Resident

Walter Anderson, senior editor, Parade Publications Inc.

SPONSORS: Herbert Kupferberg, Jess Gorkin

James D. Reed, staff writer, Sports Illustrated

SPONSORS: Jim Hill, John Groth

Dorothy Zinow, editor/publisher, Nassau Magazine Limited, Bahamas Magazine.

SPONSORS: Matt Bassity, Wilma Dobie

Active Non-Resident

John J. O'Connor, president, Osprey Publications Inc.

SPONSORS: Matt Bassity, Wilma Dobie

Associate Resident

Patricia Lewis, director-media relations, Avon Products Inc.

SPONSORS: Kathleen McLaughlin, Rosalind Massow

CALENDAR

Tuesday, Nov. 1, 5:30 p.m. — Talking Shop With... Daniel Schorr, News correspondent, journalist and author of a new book, *Clearing The Air*.

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 12 noon, cocktails; 12:30, luncheon — Headliner Luncheon with Democrat Ed Koch and Republican Roy Goodman, mayoral candidates.

Thursday, Nov. 17, 5:30 — 7:30 p.m. — At Home With... John Scott, WOR radio commentator.

Monday, Nov. 21, 8 p.m. — Music Night, Marlene Walt, soprano.

Tuesday, Nov. 22, 5:30 p.m. — Twilight Jazz. Details in next Bulletin.

RESERVATIONS: Please call Mary Novick, 687-2430. Reservation cancellations must reach the OPC 24 hours before the event, otherwise members will be charged the announced fee.

That was one of the lessons of the Emergency, "when each of us had to decide what our attitude would be and many chose to take the easy way rather than provoke the authorities," a leading Indian editor told a London gathering of media people last month.

Miss Kalpana Sharma, editor of the newsweekly *Himmat*, said that one of the reasons for the general compliance was the lack of a tradition of investigative reporting. Another, linked to it, was the level of journalists' wages, which made bribes or other inducements more attractive to a reporter than the hard slog of digging at a scandal.

She praised the formation of the Indian Editors Guild, which aimed to "formulate high standards" and draw public attention to the lack of press freedom in neighbouring countries.

The guild, she said, had been launched in part because of what she termed the acquiescence in the Emergency laws by the All-India Newspaper Editors Conference.

Miss Sharma said an archive was being brought together of underground media material in circulation during the days of censorship, and at least half of it was reprints from the western press, particularly that of Britain.

The BBC's Hindi service, too, was a constant inspiration to many thousands of listeners in the cities and the countryside and a thorn in the flesh of officials who had banned stories from the Indian papers only to hear them over the air.

"The western press was our lifeline," said Miss Sharma.

—IPI Report
October, 1977

LETTER

To the Editor:

Group Insurance Mutual of Omaha: Like myself, many of the members must have similar insurance, giving them a weekly \$150.00 or whatever dollars, after one week sick at home or from the first day whilst hospitalized. I on my part have had such a policy for a number of years and paid an annual premium of approx. \$280.- Now, instead of getting a renewed billing of same for same coverage, I am faced with a billing of \$404.- and a policy that really gives nothing else as before, nor do I want more.

I am in sympathy with certain insurances, where the firm has to fork up higher costs, thanks to inflation, say car repairs, hospital bills, etc.

But let's face it, Mutual will still only pay us the same 150.00 per week — so what right have they got to raise their fees to me and surely other members by anything at all, not to speak of some 45% ??

If the Club is to be of some service to its members, the insurance committee ought to look into this matter.

—Tomas D. W. Friedmann

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FREE-LANCERS sought for political-economic publication on Africa. Extensive knowledge of Middle East a definite advantage. Resumes to: L. Lelaulu, The Middle East Newsletter, 110 East 59th Street, N.Y. NY 10022.

FIRST CLASS

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.
Hotel Biltmore, 55 East 43rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

Obituaries

Brainerd S. Bates, a writer and editor, died Sept. 27, of a heart ailment, at his home in Middleway, West Virginia. He was 58 years old. For nineteen years, Bates was in the public relations department of the Arabian American Oil Company in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia and in New York City. He and his wife, the former Joanne Reed of Chicago, moved to Middleway two years ago. He was active there as a writer and editor for the *Aramco World Magazine* and other publications. He was also active in the Overseas Press Club of America.

Besides his wife, Bates is survived by a son Bradford R. Bates of San Luis Obispo, California; another son Stephen S. Bates of Halifax, Nova Scotia; a daughter Claudia Bates of Alexandria, Virginia; and a twin brother Robert C. Bates of Barrington, R.I.

Robert Rantoul Endicott, former editor of *Family Circle* magazine, died Oct. 16 at his home in Washington, Conn. He was 72 years old.

He joined *Family Circle* in 1932 and soon became its managing editor, a job he held for 22 years. He later edited *New Homes Guide* and *Home Modernizing*. Between 1956 and 1961 he was editor of *Today's Living*, a publication of the *New York Herald Tribune Sunday Magazine*. Later he worked for the American Heritage Publishing Company.

After he retired, Endicott, who was a man of wide-ranging interests, opened an antique shop in Litchfield, Conn., that specialized in American and English furniture.

A graduate of Harvard College, he was a descendant of John Endicott, the first Governor of Massachusetts.

He was a member of the University Club, the Dutch Treat Club and the Overseas Press Club.

He is survived by his wife, Harriet Hastings Endicott; a son, John, and a daughter, Eve.

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WHO, WHAT, WHERE

By GRACE NAISMITH

OMISSION: A sentence was somehow dropped from this column of Oct. 1 in a story about **John J. Casserly**, veteran foreign and Washington correspondent, who has written a book about the Ford Administration — "The Ford White House — Diary of a Speechwriter." Missing was the fact that the book will be published Dec. 1 by the Colorado Associated University Press, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo. 80309, and will cost \$8.95. Casserly says the book is "for budding political scientists and young reporters." Casserly, for 23 years an OPC member, was a Presidential speechwriter for 15 years. He has received so many letters as a result of the omission in the Bulletin that he hopes we will mention his publisher.

RADIO BROADCASTER: **George Bookman**, vp N.Y. Botanical Garden, has a program called Garden World on CBS radio.

HONORS: **Ben Lucien Burman** was given a civic reception in St. Louis, Oct. 25 because "of the grace he has brought to the Mississippi River through the decades."... **Robert Letts Jones** won first place in the Best Freelance category of this year's San Diego Press Club annual journalism awards. His entry, a capsuled version of an eight-part series he wrote after visiting southern Africa, has appeared in the Richmond Va. *Times-Dispatch*. He cited the danger to the U.S. in events unfolding in that part of the world... **Lloyd Stouffer**, consulting editor of *Packaging Digest*, has been elected by the Packaging Education Foundation to its Packaging Hall of Fame. Stouffer, a Fellow of the Packaging Institute, widely known as "Mr. Packaging" for his long editorial career at *Modern Packaging* and *Packaging Digest*, now lives in Whispering Pines, N.C.

TRAVELING: **Warren Goodman**, just back from Las Vegas, Phoenix and St. Louis on a number of assignments, is off to Amman, Jordan to cover Middle East Civil Aviation Conferences for Middle East Transportation a London publication... **Beverly H. Rowe** of Good Housekeeping and her husband are in Montreal... **Anita Diamant Berke** attended the London Book Fair early in Oct., then joined **Carol Houck Smith** of W.W. Norton in Paris for business with authors before an automobile trip through Southern France... **Kenneth Giniger** attended both the London Book Fair and the Frankfurt Book Fair.

PROFESSOR: **Merrill "Red" Mueller**, former OPC president, is visiting professor for the 1977-78 academic year at the College of Communications, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. Dean of the College is **John Wilhelm**, also a former OPC president. Says **Elmer Lower**, "This has to be the only college in history which has had the good fortune to have two former OPC presidents on its faculty at the same time."

NEW LOOK: **Angier Biddle Duke**, former Ambassador to Spain, has been named president of The Spanish Institute. Ambassador Duke has a long record of experience in the Spanish-speaking world, as Consul in Buenos Aires, as Ambassador to El Salvador, among his services, and he has been decorated by the government of Spain with the Order of Isabel La Catolica. For the past three years, he has been Commissioner of Civic Affairs and Public Events of the City of New York, often a prominent figure at our OPC luncheon table.

PUBLISHING EVENTS: "I Am Going Nowhere" is a new book of humorous rhymes for children written by **Millicent Brower** and published by Putnam. Children 3 to 6 will be delighted by the rhymes and the illustrations by Ronald Himler. Millicent, recently elected to PEN, is doing a series of feature articles for the *National Enquirer*... **Herbert Kupferberg**, who reviews our music events for the Bulletin, has written "The Raised Curtain," a Twentieth Century Fund Task Force Report on cultural and scholarly exchanges between the

U.S. and Soviet Union. Kupferberg is a senior editor at *Parade* magazine... **Jeanne Harman** and her husband, Harry, have a new guide book published by Morrow — "Fielding's Guide to the Caribbean plus the Bahamas" especially desirable "for anyone with only a slight Caribbean Sea-turquoise gleam in his vacation-dreamy eyes."... **Yvonne Beaudry** reports the lead article, "Quebec Roots" in *Weekend Magazine*, the weekend section of English-Canadian newspapers, and another on Franco-American roots in various U.S. newspapers... **Larry Stessin's** article, "Management Tunes in on Employee Grips," appeared in the *New York Times* Sunday Business and Finance Section, Oct. 16... **Arnold C. Brackman's** "The Gold of Tutankhamen" Mason Charter, publisher, now in its fifth printing, goes into German and Spanish editions.

SYMPATHY to Paula LeCler Wood, former international journalist, whose husband, Walter D. Wood, died Sept. 30 in Melbourne, Fla. The word comes from **James Whitford**, who recalls the many close friendships the Woods had through the OPC. Wood was a prominent Staten Island architect, "whose many creations still dot the borough," says the Staten Island Advance.

MEMORIAL: A David W. Jayne Trust has been established in honor of the late ABC-TV news senior producer, who was killed while on assignment for ABC News when his chartered jet crashed in Amman, Jordan, Sept. 23. The purpose of the Trust is three-fold: "first to provide for the college education of Jayne's four children" to perpetuate his memory "as one of the brightest lights in television news history", and to establish lasting memorials at Williams College and the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism. The announcement was made by Barbara Walters and Harry Reasoner. Donations may be sent to the David W. Jayne III Memorial Trust, c/o Walter Porges, 7 West 66 Street, New York, N.Y. 10023.

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